

# NEBRASKA

## WEATHER & CROPS

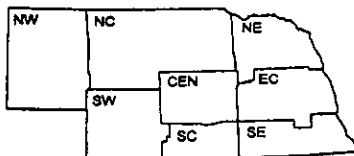
For Week Ending May 16, 1999

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National Agricultural Statistics Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
and U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.  
National Weather Service



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### WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged near normals to three degrees below normals for the week. Precipitation was widespread with amounts ranging from ten hundredths at Taylor to over three and a half inches at Seward.

### GENERAL

Farmers put in long hours, and in some cases worked around the clock, as drier soils allowed widespread planting to occur, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. However, progress in extreme Southeastern Nebraska continued well behind the state average and additional rainfall over the weekend was expected to cause further delays. Severe weather brought rain and damaging hail to southern Panhandle and Southwestern counties at mid-week. Freezing temperatures were also noted in Panhandle and Southwestern counties. Warmer conditions were needed to promote growth and development of spring planted crops and warm season grasses. As producers finished with corn planting, attention was turning to planting soybeans and sorghum. Other producer activities included hauling grain, equipment preparation for hay harvest, application of fertilizer and pre-plant chemicals, working summer fallow, fixing fence and livestock care.

### CROPS

Corn planted moved quickly to 71% complete, behind 93% last year and 77% average. However, extensive rainfall on Friday in the southern half of the State and Saturday and Sunday in many areas of the eastern half of Nebraska will delay final windup. Emergence was at 18%, well behind 43% last year and 28% average.

Soybeans moved slowly to 12% planted, behind 46% in 1998 and 25% average. Sorghum planted was at 5%, compared to 26% last year and 14% average.

Winter wheat condition again moved higher and rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 14% fair, 74% good and 10% excellent. Wheat jointed was at 88%, ahead of 69% last year, and 70% average. Heading was underway on 2% of the acreage, compared to 1% last year and 2% average.

Oats emerged was at 95%, just ahead of 93% last year. Oat conditions rated above year ago levels at 10% fair, 69% good and 21% excellent.

Alfalfa conditions rated 1% poor, 11% fair, 63% good and 25% excellent. Alfalfa benefitted from the sunshine during the week, but higher heat units were needed to encourage growth.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition improved and rated 1% poor, 14% fair, 68% good and 17% excellent. Warmer season grasses continued slow to develop. Sunny conditions were improving health conditions in young calves.

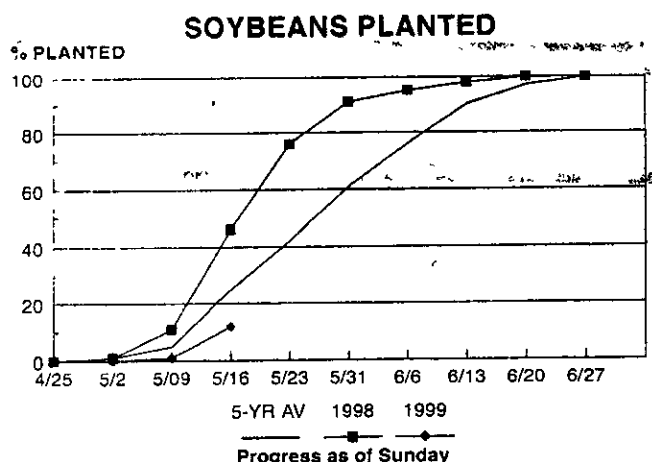
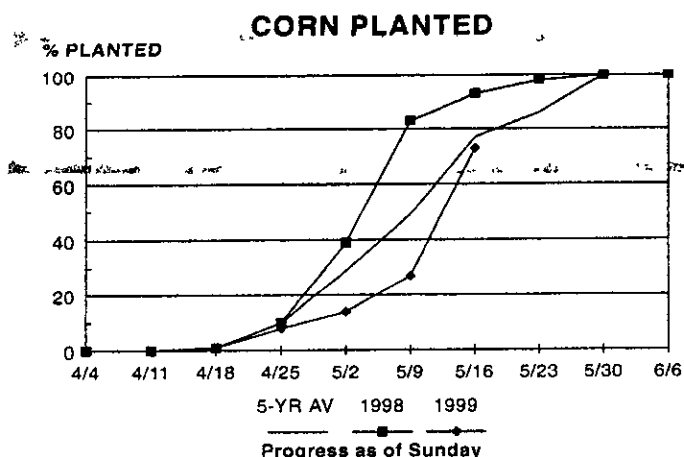
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 16, 1999		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS							STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE	
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC					SE
PERCENT													
% Corn Planted		69	59	60	82	72	75	85	50	71	27	93	77
% Corn Emerged		2	5	7	17	26	12	21	24	18	2	43	28
% Wheat Jointed		81	62	95	90	84	99	96	90	88	66	69	70
% Wheat Headed		1	1	2	5	1	2	8	1	2	1	1	2
% Oats Emerged		82	98	99	97	96	90	94	100	95	90	93	n/a
% Sorghum Planted		na	7	2	6	3	5	8	6	5	0	26	14
% Soybean Planted		na	2	5	12	16	14	21	11	12	1	46	25
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 14,1999													
Days Suitable		42	51	44	54	41	62	65	31	48	21		
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	- Short	2	0	0	3	0	8	4	0	2	1		
	- Adequate	81	98	69	95	80	88	94	52	82	65		
	- Surplus	17	2	31	2	20	4	2	48	16	34		
Subsoil Moisture	- Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	- Short	7	2	0	4	1	12	10	0	4	4		
	- Adequate	87	97	78	87	82	87	88	67	84	83		
	- Surplus	6	1	22	9	17	1	2	33	12	13		

n/a = not available.

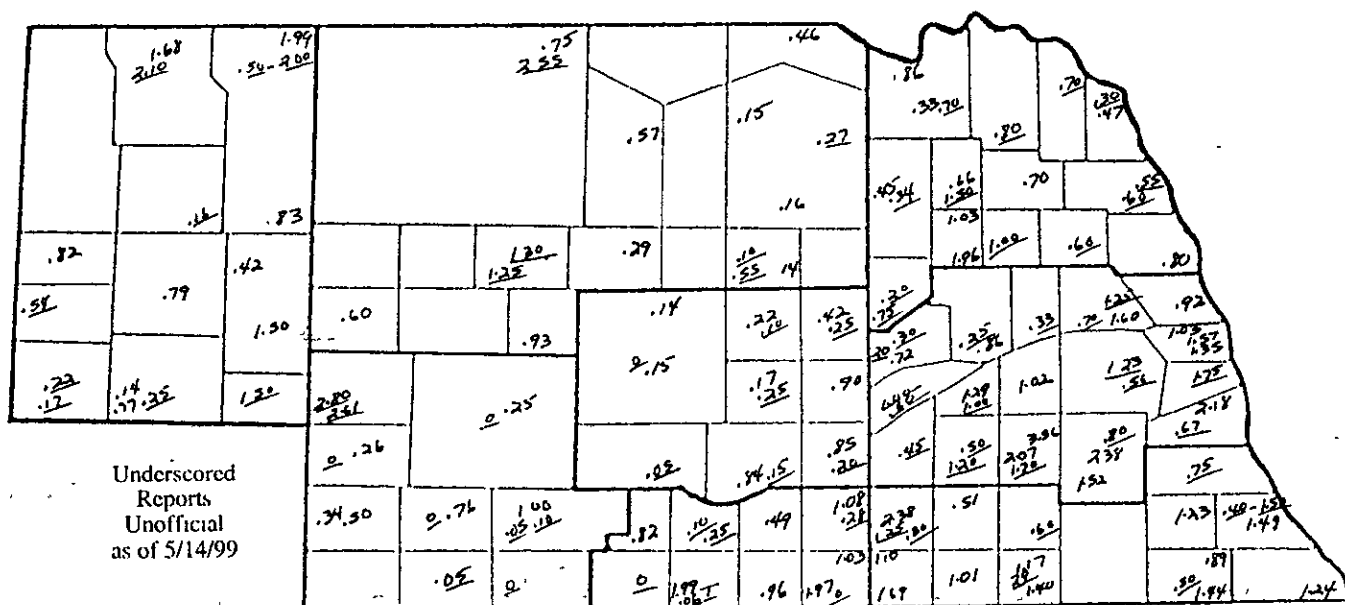
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1999



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 15, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	99	45	70	53	1 58	49	1 25	1 30
Total since April 1	5 43	5 99	6 93	6 60	7 86	3 66	7 09	7 37
Normal since April 1	3 27	3 77	4 26	4 19	4 74	3 45	3 97	4 72
Total as % of normal	166%	159%	163%	158%	166%	106%	179%	156%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,  
WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1999

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	76	30	48	---	1 68	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	76	29	52	-3	82	51	179	233
	Sidney	80	26	50	---	14	51	159	233
NC	Valentine	82	33	54	-2	75	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	58	183	243
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	70	186	261
NE	Norfolk	79	39	59	0	1 03	---	---	---
	Sioux City	78	34	58	-2	47	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	76	206	265
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	74	186	268
CEN	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	74	207	280
	Grand Island	83	39	59	-1	85	76	217	280
	Ord	79	34	59	---	22	77	208	274
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	76	214	278
EC	Lincoln	82	39	61	0	2 38	82	229	294
	Omaha	79	42	60	0	1 57	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	77	218	281
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	82	227	289
SW	Imperial	87	34	58	---	50	---	---	---
	North Platte	83	27	56	-1	25	72	210	263
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	70	219	273
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	83	240	276
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	95	278	284
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	82	228	294
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	76	216	281

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp + min temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.